

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A positioning apparatus has a stage, guide elements provided on both ends of the stage, and drive elements which are provided at one of both ends of the stage and move the stage  
5 along the guide elements. Like linear guide rails 61A, 61B and linear guide bearings 23A, 23B, two guide elements are provided in an area where a ball screw shaft 52 serving as a drive element is placed. One guide element is provided in an area where a non-drive element is provided.

10